

GS 1181.F10: Performing Identity

Faculty/Instructor Information

Professor Ashley Meyer, M.A., Ph.D. (ABD) and Director of Theatre/Instructor of Theatre

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Office Hours: T/TH 9:00 AM-11:50 AM, or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION/OVERVIEW

This course is a critical examination of the performance of personal identity through theory and practical, experiential theatre exercises. We will consider how our personal identities are shaped by and for intersecting issues of race, gender, sexuality, and other themes. Students will engage in intercultural dialogue and develop a stronger awareness of the connections between cultural communications and the performances of personal identities. Through lectures, discussion, reflective writing, and performances, students will gain a stronger self-awareness and the improved skills to perform their personal identities. Students will explore why they dress and speak the way they do and how that affects interpersonal communication and self-fulfillment.

Course Technology

Students should be familiar with the use of Microsoft Office Word and PowerPoint (or other acceptable presentation) software and have access to Angelo State University Blackboard.

Class Meeting Times

Mondays and Wednesdays 12:00-12:50 p.m.

Location: Carr Education fine Arts room 241A (Studio Theatre on the 2nd Floor)

Technical Support

The Technology Service Center (TSC) may be contacted by calling (325) 942-2911, 1-866-942-2911; or by email at helpdesk@angelo.edu

Course Objectives

Core Student Learning Outcomes

The objectives of this course are for you to develop applicable knowledge in regard to:

- Critical Thinking (CT1): Gather, analyze, and evaluate information relevant to performance.
- Communication Skills (CS1, CS2): Develop and express ideas related to personal and theatre performance through effective written and oral communication.
- Personal Responsibility (PR1): Demonstrate the ability to evaluate choices, actions and consequences as related to ethical decision-making.
- Social Responsibility (SR3): Demonstrate the ability to engage effectively in the campus community.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing
2. Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems
3. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view

How will this class help you to get a job? Read the list of 10 skills employers want according to Forbes Magazine. In this course, you will work in small groups (work in a team structure), evaluate information (solve problems), do research (obtain information), summarize information (process information), use Blackboard (show proficiency with computer software), and communicate with classmates (communicate verbally with people inside the organization).

Required Materials

- *Daring Greatly: How the Courage to be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead* by Brene Brown. ISBN: 9781592408412 (any edition, version, copy or e-book is fine)
- Email/Internet/Computers: You have access to these as ASU students. Activate your email account and be sure to check your email frequently to receive notices/information from professors regarding your courses.
- Blackboard Account: This tool is a course management system used to track all courses. Professors will update grades, assignments, and post information to assist you in your classes. Be sure you know how to navigate Blackboard.

Method of Assessing Learning Outcomes

This course will use a “point system” for all work, including performances and participation. There are 1000 points possible in this class. The breakdown is as follows:

Assignment Type	Point Value	Total Assignments	Total Points
Article Summaries	100	2	200
Play Attendance	150	1	150
Daring Greatly Quizzes and Discussion	100	1	100
Verbal Play Critique	100	1	100
Final Performance	200	1	200
Participation/Discussion/ In-Class Assignments	250	-	250
Total Points			1000

- 1) **Article Summaries:** Worth 100 points each for a total of 200 points. Students will write two summaries over articles provided by the instructor. (Handouts to follow.) **(Outcomes 1 and 3)**
- 2) **Play Attendance:** Worth 150 points. Students will attend a live performance of *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* by Bertolt Brecht or *Gruesome Playground Injuries* by Rajiv Joseph produced this semester at Angelo State University. Dates are at the end of this syllabus. **(Outcome 3)**
- 3) **Daring Greatly Quizzes and Discussion.** Worth 100 points. Students will read Brene Brown’s *Daring Greatly*. Weekly reading quizzes and discussions will follow. (Handouts to follow.) **(Outcomes 1, 2, 3,)**
- 4) **Verbal Play Critique:** Worth 100 points. Students will analyze and critique the play performance orally. (Handouts to follow.) **(Outcomes 2, 4, 10, 11)**

- 5) **Final Performance:** Worth 200 points. Students will perform a 1-2 minute, one-person piece they create throughout the class. (Handout to follow.) **(Outcomes 1, 2, 3)**
- 6) **Participation/Discussion/In-Class Assignments:** Worth 300 points. Students are expected to participate in class, including asking questions, answering questions and initiating classroom discussion, and participating in theatre exercises, acting games, group activities and writing exercises. (Handout to follow). **(Outcomes 1, 2, 3)**

Grading Policies

Grades will be calculated using a 1000-point scale. Assignments are due at the beginning of every class. After the start of class time, assignments turned in are considered late. Performances and group activities cannot be made up. All other assignments automatically lose a full letter grade for every day they are late (including after the start of class). Pop reading quizzes must be made up within one week of missing a pop quiz, and it is the student's responsibility to arrange a makeup.

Semester Point Breakdown Scale

Total Points	Letter Grade
1000-970	A+
969-920	A
919-890	A-
889-850	B+
849-810	B
809-780	B-
779-750	C+
749-710	C
709-660	C-
659-620	D+
619-590	D
589-550	D-
549-0	F

Course Policies

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with the university [Academic Honor Code](#) and the [ASU Student Handbook](#).

It is the professor's intention to be as fair and impartial as is humanly possible. Therefore, all students will be asked to adhere to the same set of guidelines and rules UNLESS there are disabilities or documented extenuating circumstances that have been discussed with the professor and the Student Life Office. Please make sure you inform the professor as soon as any situation arises. Do NOT wait until the problem is compounded by poor class performance, poor attendance, etc.

Academic integrity is expected. This includes, but is not limited to, any form of cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized sharing of work, or unauthorized possession of course materials. The professor assumes that all students can be trusted. Please do not violate this trust. Violation of academic integrity will result in a failing grade for the course.

Courtesy and Respect

Courtesy and Respect are essential ingredients to this course. We respect each other's opinions and

respect their point of view at all times while in our class sessions. The use of profanity & harassment of any form is strictly prohibited (Zero Tolerance), as are those remarks concerning one's ethnicity, life style, race (ethnicity), religion, etc.; violations of these rules will result in immediate dismissal from the course.

Accommodations for Disability

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.15 Providing Accommodations for Students with Disabilities), the Student Life Office is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Student Life Office at (325) 942-2191 or (325) 942-2126; (325) 942-2126 (TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at Student.Life@angelo.edu to begin the process. The Student Life Office will establish the particular documentation requirements necessary for the various types of disabilities.

Attendance

Timeliness and presence are crucial to excellence in the performing arts. Each student is allowed **two (2)** absences before your final grade is affected. For each absence beyond these allotted absences, your final grade will be reduced by ½ a letter grade with each subsequent absence. In addition to unexcused absences, three tardies or early exits will equal one absence. General rule: If you arrive to class after attendance has been taken, you are tardy. Medical emergencies will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Doctor's appointments subsequent to an illness or injury will NOT count as an excused absence.

Please note: The only university-recognized excused absences are participation in official university business or for bona fide religious holy days. Participation in official university business must be documented by written notice from sponsoring faculty or staff member at last one week prior to the event.

Religious Holy Day Observance

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day), a student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

Course Drop

To view information about how to drop this course or to calculate important dates relevant to dropping this course, you can visit http://www.angelo.edu/services/registrar_office/course_drop_provisions.php.

Incomplete as a Course Grade

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.11 Grading Procedures), the grade I is given when the student is unable to complete the course because of illness or personal misfortune. An I that is not removed before the end of the next long semester automatically becomes an F. A graduate student will be allowed one year to remove a grade of I before it automatically becomes an F. To graduate from ASU, a student must complete all I's.

Grade Appeal Process

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.03 Student Grade Grievances), a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see Operating Procedure 10.03 at: <http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14196-op-1003-grade-grievance>.

Academic Support Services

- ASU Tutor Center (www.angelo.edu/dept/tutoring)
- Writing Center (www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center)
- Math Lab (www.angelo.edu/dept/mathematics/lab_hours)
- Supplemental Instruction (www.angelo.edu/dept/si)
- Upswing 24/7 online tutoring (<https://angelo.upswing.io/>)

The ASU Tutor Center, Writing Center, Math Lab and SI also offer online tutoring.

Theatre Production Information Fall 2019

Attendance at ONE of the following is required:

The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui by Bertolt Brecht | ASU Auditorium Theatre, Administration Building
Rated M for mature audiences for adult language, themes of violence, history, and politics

Student Sneak Peek is Wednesday October 9 at 8:00PM

October 10-October 13 | 8:00PM Nightly | 2:00PM only on October 13

Gruesome Playground Injuries by Rajiv Joseph | ASU Studio Theatre, Carr Education-Fine Arts Building
Rated Pg-13 for adult language and themes, some sexuality

Student Sneak Peek is Thursday, October 3 at 8:00PM

October 4-October 5 | 8:00PM Nightly

Optional

Fun Home by Lisa Kron | ASU Modular Theatre

Rated Pg-13 for adult language and themes, some sexuality

Student Sneak Peek is Wednesday November 13 at 8:00PM

November 14-November 16 | 8:00PM Nightly

November 21-November 24 | 8:00PM Nightly | 2:00PM only on November 24

Box Office • Ticketing Information

Modular, ASU Auditorium, and Studio Theatre Productions:

Angelo State University Theatre | Carr Education-Fine Arts Building, 2602 Dena Dr, San Angelo, TX 76904

Box Office:

Open Monday-Friday 2:00PM-6:00PM starting two weeks before a performance

325-942-2000

All ASU students receive free admission for plays and musicals. Dinner theatre productions are \$12.50 for students.

Sneak Peek Performances:

One free sneak peek performance will be available for students for each show, the night before "opening night."

A sold-out performance is not an excuse for not seeing a production. Please obtain tickets ahead of time.

Policy on Children in Class: Currently, the university does not have a formal policy on children in the classroom. The policy described here is thus, a reflection of my own beliefs and commitments to student, staff and faculty parents. If you are a parent, I invite you to discuss the following accommodations with me ASAP.

1) All exclusively breastfeeding babies are welcome in class as often as is necessary to support the breastfeeding relationship. Because not all women can pump sufficient milk, and not all babies will take a bottle reliably, I never want students to feel like they have to choose between feeding their baby and continuing their education. You and your nursing baby are welcome in class anytime.

2) For older children and babies, I understand that minor illnesses and unforeseen disruptions in childcare often put parents in the position of having to choose between missing class to stay home with a child and leaving him or her with someone you or the child does not feel comfortable with. While this is not meant to be a long-term childcare solution, occasionally bringing a child to class in order to cover gaps in care is perfectly acceptable.

3) I ask that all students work with me to create a welcoming environment that is respectful of all forms of diversity, including diversity in parenting status.

4) In all cases where babies and children come to class, I ask that you sit close to the door so that if your little one needs special attention and is disrupting learning for other students, you may step outside until their need has been met. Non-parents in the class, please reserve seats near the door for your parenting classmates.

5) Finally, I understand that often the largest barrier to completing your coursework once you become a parent is the tiredness many parents feel in the evening once children have *finally* gone to sleep. The struggles of balancing school, childcare and often another job are exhausting! I hope that you will feel comfortable disclosing your student-parent status to me. This is the first step in my being able to accommodate any special needs that arise. While I maintain the same high expectations for all student in my classes regardless of parenting status, I am happy to problem solve with you in a way that makes you feel supported as you strive for school-parenting balance. Thank you for the diversity you bring to our classroom!

Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex. You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form

Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

E-Mail: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325- 942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Course Schedule

Course Calendar

GS1181-F10 | Performing Identity | Fall 2019 | M/W 12:00 p.m.-12:50 p.m.
 This calendar is subject to change. Students will be notified in advance of any all changes.

Date	In class we will...	Assignments Due	Objectives Covered in Class	Before the next class, you should...
Monday 8/26	Review Syllabus and Introductions		CS, PR, 1, 2	Review the syllabus and course requirements before signing course contract. Log onto Blackboard and make sure you understand how to navigate our course page (professor can see all of your blackboard activity)
Wednesday 8/28	Introduce acting games and review Blackboard	Signed Course Contract (hard copy)	CS, PR, SR, 1, 2	Read Chapter 1 of <i>Daring Greatly</i>
Monday 9/2	No Class: Labor Day Holiday			
Wednesday 9/4	Discuss the transition to college and how that may impact identity performance. Go over expectations for college life. Discuss Ch 1	Blackboard Login	CS, PR, SR, 1, 2	Read Chapter 2 of <i>Daring Greatly</i>
Monday 9/9	Discuss Ch. 2, identity performance and professional correspondence		CS, PR, SR, 1, 2	Read "Courage Over Comfort" on Blackboard
Wednesday 9/11	Discuss effective reading strategies and writing an effective summary	Professional and Curious email to professor	CS, PR, CT, 1, 2, 3	Submit written summary
Monday 9/16	Discuss performing generational culture	Written Summary #1 due on Blackboard	CS, PR, CT, 1, 2, 3	
Wednesday 9/18	Discuss organization and time-management		PR, SR, CT, 1, 2, 3	Read Chapter 3 of <i>Daring Greatly</i>
Monday 9/23	Discuss Chapter 3 and performing gender identity		CS, PR, SR, CT, 1, 2, 3	
Wednesday 9/25	Group Photo Scavenger Hunt	Scavenger Hunt Results emailed to professor by the end of class	CS, PR, SR	Read Chapter 4 of <i>Daring Greatly</i>
Monday 9/30	Discuss Chapter 4		CS, PR, SR, CT, 1, 2, 3	
Wednesday 10/2	Discuss the final performance and performing sexual orientation		CS, PR, SR, CT, 1, 2, 3	Read Chapter 5 of <i>Daring Greatly</i>
Monday 10/7	Discuss library and on-campus resources and Chapter 5		PR, 2, 3	
Wednesday 10/9	Discuss performing status and theatre etiquette		CS, CT, SR, 1	Read Chapter 6 of <i>Daring Greatly</i>
10/09-10/13: The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui by Bertolt Brecht ASU Auditorium Theatre (Administration Building) 10/09-10/12: 7:45PM 10/13: 1:45PM				
Monday 10/14	Discuss <i>Rise of Arturo Ui</i> and <i>Gruesome Playground Injuries</i>	Verbal Play Critique	CT, CS, 1, 3	Rehearse your final performances and turn in written summary
Wednesday 10/16	Required Final Performances	Written Summary #2 due on Blackboard	CS, CT, PR, 1, 2, 3	Have a great semester in the rest of your semester!